



*Give us
this bread
always*

JOHN 6:34



Worship Program
August 3rd & 4th, 2024
Lectionary 18

Introduction

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

Confession & Forgiveness

**Please stand if you are able.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: God, our provider,

C: Help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God:

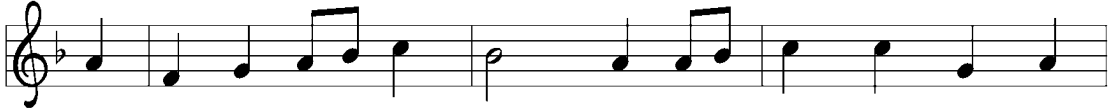
in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy. You are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **C: Amen.**

Greeting

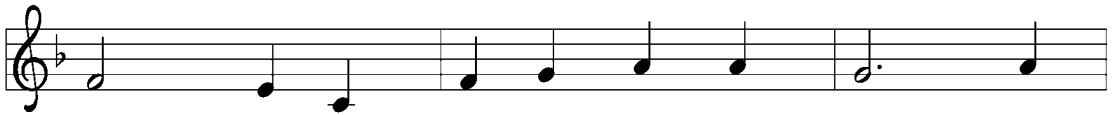
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn "O Bread of Life from Heaven" Hymn 480



1 O bread of life from heav - en, O food to pil - grims
2 O fount of grace re - deem - ing, O riv - er ev - er
3 We love you, Je - sus, ten - der, in all your hid - den



giv - en, O man - na from a - bove: feed
stream - ing from Je - sus' wound - ed side: come
splen - dor with - in these means of grace. Oh,



with the bless - ed sweet - ness of your di - vine com -
now, your love be - stow - ing on thirst - ing souls, and
let the veil be riv - en, and our clear eye in



plete - ness the souls that want and need your love.
flow - ing till all are ful - ly sat - is - fied.
heav - en be - hold your glo - ry face to face.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us. We eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen. **Please be seated.*

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

(A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.)

WA: The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread. For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'"

And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning, you shall have your fill of bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp.

And in the morning, there was a layer of dew around the camp.

When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 78:23-29

(God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels. (Ps. 78:24, 25)

WA: So God commanded the clouds above and opened the doors of heaven.

C: Raining down manna upon them to eat and giving them grain from heaven.

WA: So mortals ate the bread of angels. God provided for them food enough.

C: The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens and powerfully led out the south wind.

WA: Raining down flesh upon them like dust and flying birds like the sand of the seas.

C: Letting them fall in the midst of the camp and round about the dwellings.

WA: So the people ate and were well filled, for God gave them what they craved.

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

(Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.)

WA: I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive." He gave gifts to his people."

(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia" (Setting 3, ELW pg.142) **Please stand if you are able.*

Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

Gospel: John 6:24-35

(Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.)

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were beside the sea, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves."

"Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal."

Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you?"

What work are you performing?

Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness.

As it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

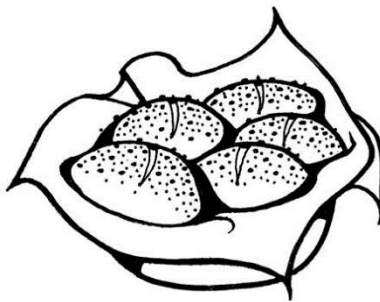
Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

**Please be seated.*

Sermon Gary Mickle



Hymn of the Day "Let Us Break Bread Together" Hymn 471

**Please stand if you are able.*



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: O Wise One, your wisdom has been present in this world since its beginning. Pour out your wisdom into the hearts of the whole church, especially the newly baptized, lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Merciful God, **C: Receive our prayer.**

P: Holy God of all creation, you are the source of all life. Where the sun blazes hard and strong, bring a gentle breeze. In the places experiencing the cold of winter, bring your warmth.

Merciful God, **C: Receive our prayer.**

P: Compassionate God, help government leaders of this world unite for peace and justice. Humble all who hold authority, that power is directed toward a more just society.

Merciful God, **C: Receive our prayer.**

P: Bread of life from heaven, you feed us. Fill all who hunger with needed nutrition and open our hearts to eliminate hunger in this world. May we see a day when all are fed.

Merciful God, **C: Receive our prayer.**

P: O Wisdom of truth, help us to understand your will for the church. Be with congregations experiencing transition, redevelopment, and the exciting yet frightening path of newness. May your wisdom be found at every step. Merciful God, **C: Receive our prayer.**

P: Redeeming God, we give you thanks for the lives and witness of your saints now departed. Bring your beloved into eternal glory, opening wide the gates to the heavenly banquet.

Merciful God, **C: Receive our prayer.**

P: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **C: Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Offertory Song **"We are an Offering"** Hymn 692

Offering Prayer **Please stand if you are able.*

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

The Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” (Setting Three, ELW pg.144)

Thanksgiving at the Table

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

**Please be seated.*

"Lamb of God" (Setting Three, ELW pg.146)

Special Music

"Less Like Me" Performed by Zach Williams

Prayer after Communion **Please stand if you are able.*

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

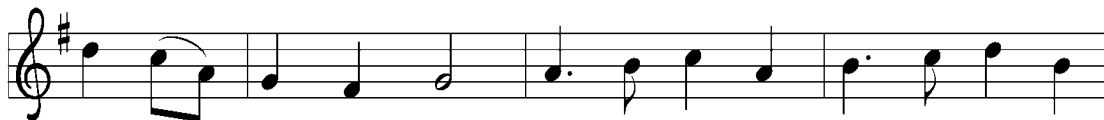
Sending Hymn "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" Hymn 618



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem-er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Readers/Communion Assistants

Aug 3 Jack Weisbrodt
Aug 4 VR Reader

Aug 10 **** Help Wanted****
Aug 11 Jamie McMullen

Aug 17 ****Help Wanted****
Aug 18 **** Help Wanted****

Aug 24 **** Help Wanted****
Aug 25 Ray Leverknight

Aug 31 **** Help Wanted****
Sept 1 **** Help Wanted****

Ushers

Aug 3 ****Help Wanted****
Aug 4 ****Help Wanted****

Aug 10 Joan & Janis
Aug 11 ****Help Wanted****

Aug 17 Joan & Janis
Aug 18 ****Help Wanted****

Aug 24 ****Help Wanted****
Aug 25 ****Help Wanted****

Aug 31 ****Help Wanted****
Sept 1 ****Help Wanted****

Altar Guild

August - Nancy Nemeth, Laura Bower, Mary Beth Heinze

Worship Leader Schedule

Aug 3/4 Gary Mickle
Aug 10/11 The Very Rev. Dan Lees
Aug 17/18 Gary Mickle

Aug 24/25 Pastor Ed DeVore
Aug 31/1 Pastor Dave Bowman



Clothing/Toy Sale

It's that time of year! We are beginning to collect clothes and toys for our annual clothing/toy sale! The sale will be held on Saturday, October 5th. If you are unable to drop off items after worship or during office hours, please leave them in the blue bin outside as it will be checked daily. Clothes are going to be stored in the old lounge. Toys will be collected on the stage in Sander Hall. Please try to fold, sort, and label the clothes by size and gender while packing them. This makes it much easier, and less time-consuming for the volunteers who work to set up for the sale.

Giving Tree

The Giving Tree for August will coincide with our Touch-a-Truck event in September. We will be collecting cases of Gatorade and water for our first responders. The donations collected will be distributed to them during the event.
Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

"Your Voice Matters" survey

Remember to stop in the narthex or subscribe to our weekly newsletter to cast your vote! Simply fill out the three question survey asking your opinion on our current church hours and attendance.
Your voice matters!